

GRANTING THE CONSENT OF CONGRESS TO AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, PROVIDING A METHOD FOR EXECUTING LEASES FOR GRAZING AND AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES ON LANDS GRANTED OR CONFIRMED TO THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED JUNE 20, 1910

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MAY 25, 1942.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6625]

The Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6625), granting the consent of Congress to an amendment to the constitution of the State of New Mexico, providing a method for executing leases for grazing and agricultural purposes on lands granted or confirmed to the State of New Mexico by the act of Congress approved June 20, 1910, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

Facts concerning this measure are set forth in the report of the Department of the Interior to the chairman of the Committee on the Public Lands of the House of Representatives, which report is hereinbelow set forth in full and made a part of this report. This bill, H. R. 6625, is a redraft of H. R. 5237 incorporating the amendments thereto recommended by the Secretary of the Interior in his report on H. R. 5237.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, November 17, 1941.

Hon. J. W. ROBINSON,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Public Lands, House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. ROBINSON: By letter of July 9, you requested a report on H. R. 5237, a bill granting the consent of Congress to an amendment to the Constitution of the State of New Mexico, providing a method for executing leases for grazing and agricultural purposes on lands granted or confirmed to the State of New Mexico by the act of Congress approved June 20, 1910.

I have no objection to the enactment of the proposed legislation if the bill be amended to conform to the suggestion hereinafter made.

The purpose of the bill is to authorize the State of New Mexico to amend its constitution in regard to the method of leasing for grazing or agricultural purposes the lands which were granted to the State for the support of common schools and for other specific purposes by the Enabling Act of June 20, 1910 (36 Stat. 557).

In the act of 1910 provision was made for the sale or lease by the State of the granted lands, the proceeds therefrom to be used for the particular object for which the lands were granted or confirmed. By the constitution of the State all conditions in the grant of State lands made by the enabling act were accepted by the State and the people of New Mexico.

By Public Resolution No. 7, approved February 6, 1928 (45 Stat. 58), Congress granted consent to the amendment of the State's constitution in regard to the method of executing leases and other contracts for the development and production of minerals on the granted lands, and to the enactment of such laws and the establishment of such regulations as might be deemed necessary to carry into effect such constitutional provision, if adopted.

The proposed legislation appears to be in harmony with prior legislation relating to the disposition of granted lands in the case of New Mexico and other States.

On page 2, lines 8 to 11, the title of the act of June 20, 1910 (36 Stat. 557), is not set forth correctly. The title of the act of June 20, 1910, is "An act to enable the people of New Mexico to form a constitution and State government and be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States; and to enable the people of Arizona to form a constitution and State government and be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States." It is suggested that the bill be amended to set forth the correct title.

The Bureau of the Budget has informed me that there is no objection to the presentation of this report to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN J. DEMPSEY,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior.*